



European Committee
of the Regions

Agenda

22 September 2022

Sustainable blue economy and aquaculture in EU regions

Albert Borschette Congress Center, Brussels/Hybrid

09:00 – 10:00

Registration and welcome coffee

10:00 – 10:40

Introduction and opening speeches

- **Mr Simonas Šatūnas**, Head of Cabinet of the Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius, European Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries
- **Mr Bronius Markauskas**, Member of the European Committee of the Regions
- **Mr Martin Hlaváček**, Member of the European Parliament
- **Mr Simo Tiainen**, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee
- **Mr Patrik Mlynář**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic

10:40 – 11:50

Panel 1: Aquaculture as part of a sustainable and resilient blue economy in the EU regions

This panel will present the benefits for EU regions of aquaculture as part of the broader blue economy. It will also present examples of successful integration of aquaculture in EU regions, synergies with other blue economy sectors, and use of EU funds.

Speakers

- **Mr Kestutis Sadauskas**, Deputy Director-General DG MARE
- **Ms Elina Hakonen-Meddings**, DG REGIO
- **Dr Xenophon Markantonatos** (Director of Rural Affairs, Decentralized Administration of Epirus) and **Mr Stefanos Ntimas** (aquaculture producer, Epirus region)
- **Ms Aine-Lisa Shannon** (Project Facilitator for BIM, Ireland) and **Mr Ben Dallaghan** (BIM, Ireland)
- **Mr Stefano Dini** and **Mr Fabio Giorgi** (Mariculture and Research Cooperative, Capraia island)

Q&A

11:50 – 12:10

Coffee break

12:10 – 13:10

Panel 2: Aquaculture and nature protection in EU regions

This panel will address how aquaculture development and the preservation and restoration of ecosystems and biodiversity can work

	<p><i>hand in hand, and how to communicate and give value to the contribution of aquaculture to those environmental objectives. The panel will also present examples of the management of aquaculture activities in EU regions that provide ecosystem services.</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Vedran Nikolić, Directorate-General for Environment • Ms Raphaela Le Gouvello, IUCN expert • Mr Giuseppe Cherubini (Regional administration, Veneto region) and Mr Oliver Martini (President of Veneto Lagoons Association) • Mr Jan Mráz, Head of CENAKVA research program, South Bohemia <p>Q&A</p>
13:10 – 14:40	Lunch
14:40 – 15:40	<p>Panel 3: EU regions as hubs for innovation and aquaculture</p> <p><i>This panel will present how EU regions can become hubs for innovation in the blue economy and, more specifically, on aquaculture. The panel will also present approaches and tools to create an enabling environment in EU regions fostering an innovative aquaculture sector, referring to concrete examples.</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Cyril Rouault, Policy officer for aquaculture, Région Bretagne • Mr Béla Halasi-Kovács, Director of the Research Center for Fisheries and Aquaculture of MATE, Hungary • Mr David Basset, General Secretary, EATIP • Ms Patrizia Busolini, Policy officer, DG MARE • Mr Giuseppe Sciacca, Director for Maritime Affairs and Climate, CPMR <p>Q&A</p>
15:40 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00– 17:00	<p><i>Recipe for the successful integration of aquaculture in EU regions</i> (Concluding panel with speakers from the previous panels)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Lara Barazzi- Geroulano, President of the European Federation of Aquaculture Producers (FEAP) and CEO of Kefalonia Fisheries • Ms Raphaela Le Gouvello, IUCN expert • Mr David Basset, General Secretary, EATIP • Mr Béla Halasi-Kovács, Director of the Research Center for Fisheries and Aquaculture of MATE, Hungary